

America's strength and prosperity are testaments to the enduring power of our founding ideals, among them, that all men are created equal, and that liberty is God's gift to humanity, the birthright of every individual. The American creed remains powerful today because it represents the universal hope of all mankind.

On the Fourth of July, we are grateful for the blessings that freedom represents and for the opportunities it affords. We are thankful for the love of our family and friends and for our rights to think, speak, and worship freely. We are also humbled in remembering the many courageous men and women who have served and sacrificed throughout our history to preserve, protect, and expand these liberties. In liberating oppressed peoples and demonstrating honor and bravery in battle, the members of our Armed Forces reflect the best of our Nation.

We also recognize the challenges that America now faces. We are winning the war against enemies of freedom, yet more work remains. We will prevail in this noble mission. Liberty has the power to turn hatred into hope.

America is a force for good in the world, and the compassionate spirit of America remains a living faith. Drawing on the courage of our Founding Fathers and the resolve of our citizens, we willingly embrace the challenges before us.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a safe and joyous Independence Day. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless America.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on the
National Emergency With Respect to
the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass
Destruction**

July 3, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on
Benchmarks for a Sustainable Peace
Process in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

July 3, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with the Levin Amendment to the 1998 Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act (section 7(b) of Public Law 105-174) and section 1203(a) of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-261), I am providing a report prepared by my Administration on progress made toward achieving benchmarks for a sustainable peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This eighth report, which also includes supplemental reporting consistent with section 1203(a) of Public Law 105-261, provides

an updated assessment of progress on the benchmarks covering the period January 1 to June 30, 2003.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting Proposed Legislative
Changes To Implement the United
States-Chile Free Trade Agreement**

July 3, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

On June 6, 2003, the United States Trade Representative signed the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement on behalf of the United States. Consistent with section 2105(a)(1)(B) of the Trade Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-210), I am submitting a description of the changes to existing laws, prepared by my Administration, that would be required to bring the United States into compliance with that Agreement.

I look forward to working with the Congress in developing legislation to implement this important Free Trade Agreement.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting Proposed Legislative
Changes To Implement the United
States-Singapore Free Trade
Agreement**

July 3, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

On May 6, 2003, I signed the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement. Consistent with section 2105(a)(1)(B) of the Trade Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-210), I am submitting a description of the changes to existing laws, prepared by my Administra-

tion, that would be required to bring the United States into compliance with that Agreement.

I look forward to working with the Congress in developing legislation to implement this important Free Trade Agreement.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

**Digest of Other
White House Announcements**

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

June 28

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

June 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Miami, FL.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Tampa, FL.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled: Frederick Beaman, Steven Bennett, Robert Kelly, and Felipe Mendoza.

July 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing and met with the National Security Council.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gwendolyn Brown to be Chief Financial Officer for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.